

Minnesota Department of Public Safety

# Office of Pipeline Safety 2020 Annual Report

# About the Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety

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## History

The Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety (MNOPS) was created in 1987 following a major pipeline disaster in Mounds View. The office became fully certified in 1991 to inspect both interstate and intrastate pipelines under authority of the U.S. Department of Transportation – Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

## What MNOPS Does

- Conducts annual inspections of pipeline companies statewide.
- Investigates pipeline accidents and incidents.
- Provides education statewide to ensure people are safe when digging around underground utilities.

## MNOPS Staff

MNOPS has 20 staff members who are dedicated to keeping Minnesotans safe.

MNOPS has four teams:

- Damage Prevention Inspection
- Large Operator Inspection
- Small Operator and Interstate Inspection
- Administration

# 2020 at a Glance



MNOPS inspectors conducted over 6,800 hours of pipeline safety inspections, investigations and training.



MNOPS inspectors conducted 364 pipeline inspections; seven of those were of accidents and incidents.



MNOPS cited 71 pipeline safety issues and 365 damage-prevention safety issues across the state of Minnesota.

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## Miles of pipeline in Minnesota: 70,343

59,924 natural gas distribution

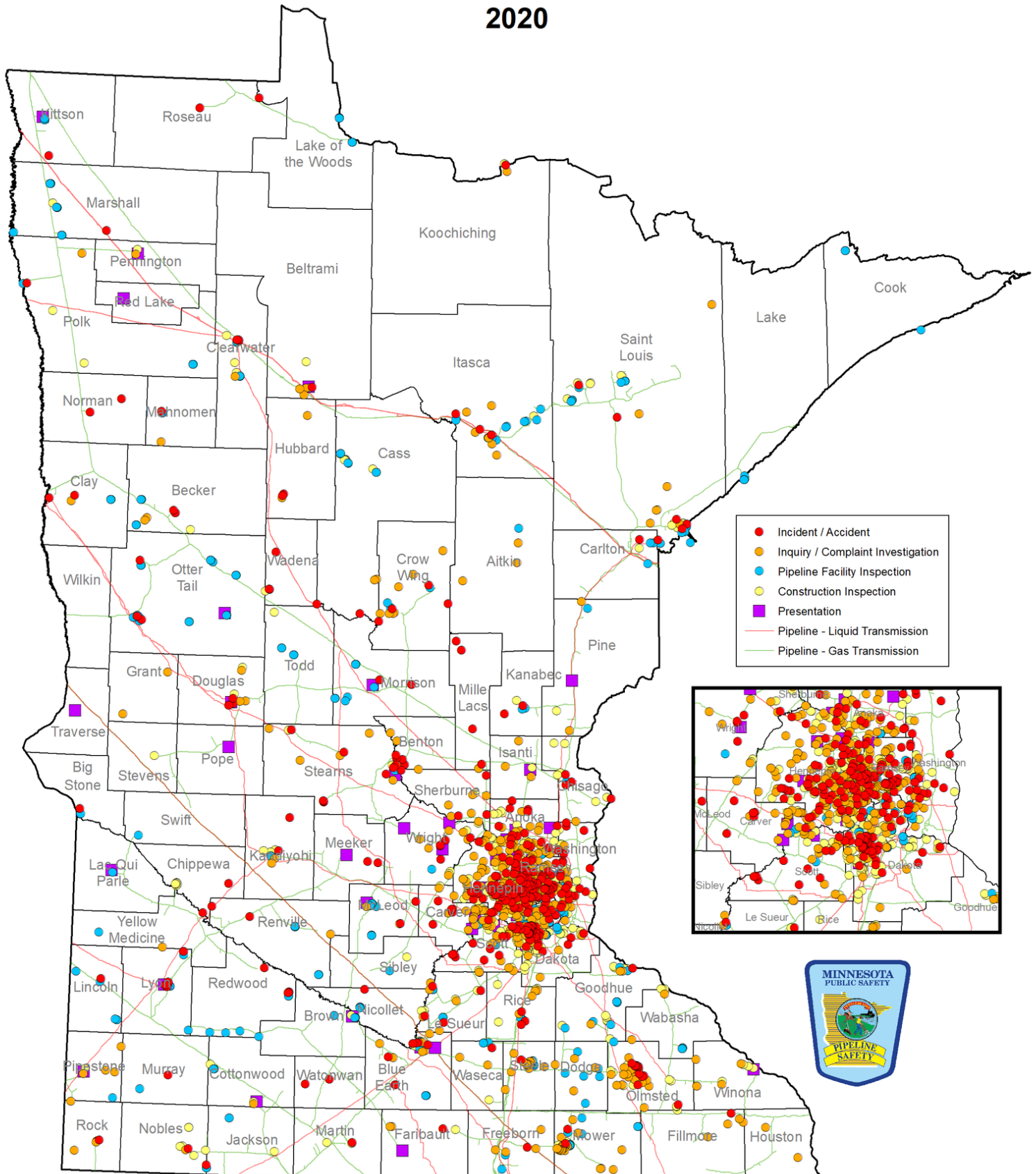
5,470 natural gas transmission

4,949 hazardous liquid

# 2020: All Cases

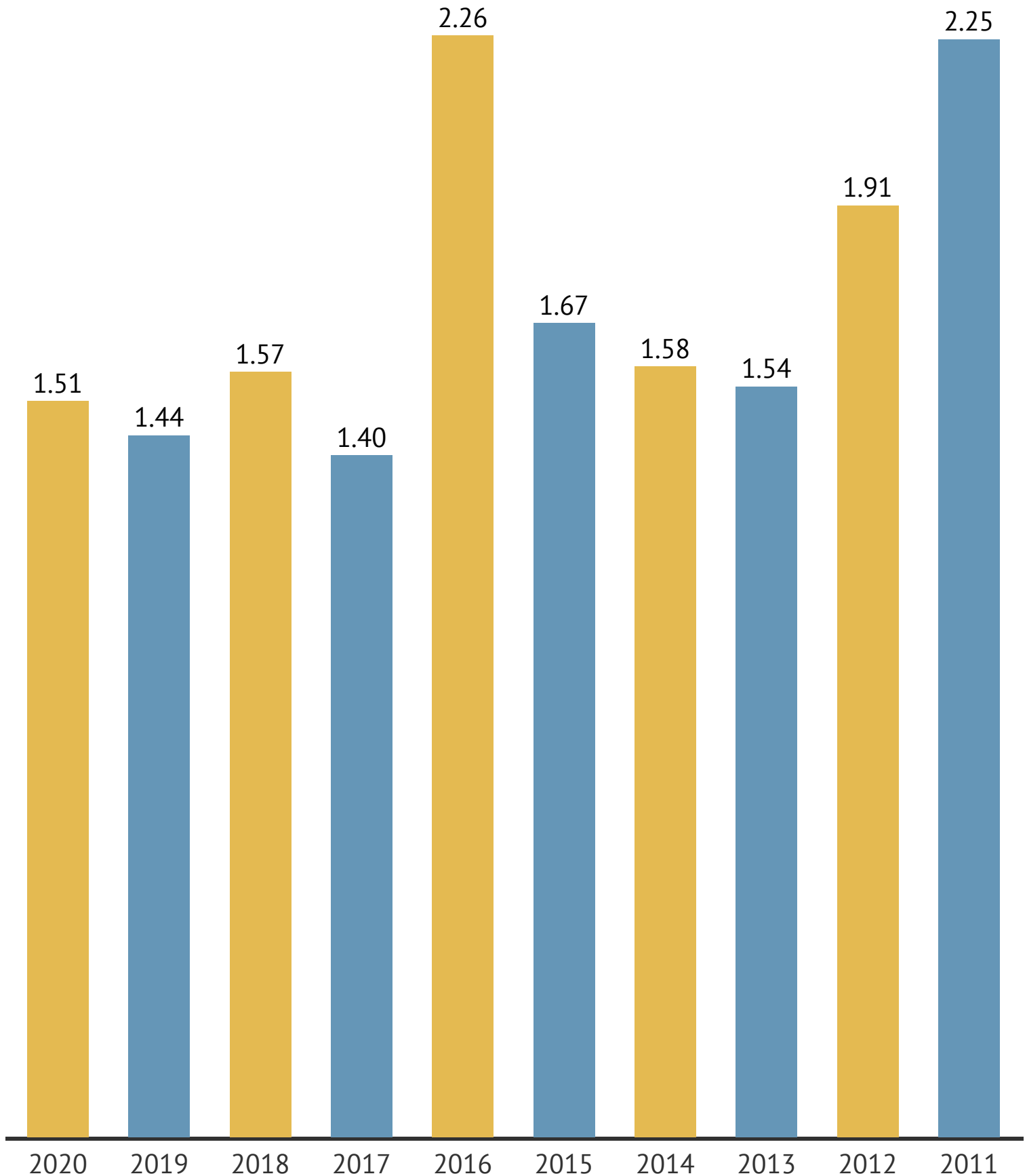
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
OFFICE OF PIPELINE SAFETY

ALL CASES  
2020



# Underground Utility Damages

Per 1,000 locate tickets





**[ops.dps.mn.gov](https://ops.dps.mn.gov)**

**651-201-7230 or [dps.mnops.response@state.mn.us](mailto:dps.mnops.response@state.mn.us)**

**445 Minnesota St., Suite 147**

**St. Paul, MN 55101**